Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ITALY.

Report from Naples—A case of plague at Constantinople.

NAPLES, ITALY, *December 2, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended November 30, 1901, the following ships were inspected at Naples:

November 26, the steamship *Columbia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 469 steerage passengers and 85 pieces of large baggage. Six hundred and seventy-nine pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

November 27, the steamship *Nord America*, of the Veloce Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,190 steerage passengers and 320 pieces of large baggage. One thousand five hundred and ninety-five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

November 29, the steamship *Trojan Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 438 steerage passengers and 125 pieces of large baggage. Six hundred and eighty-three pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

November 30, the steamship *Victoria*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 337 steerage passengers and 76 pieces of large baggage. Four hundred and seventy-four pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Inspection at Palermo.

At Palermo for the week ended November 30, 1901, the following ship was inspected:

November 30, the steamship *Trojan Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 121 steerage passengers and 80 pieces of large and 150 pieces of small baggage. Thirty-five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Smallpox in Naples.

During the week ended November 30, 1901, there were officially reported at Naples 18 cases of smallpox with 1 death.

Plague in Turkey.

November 27, 1901, a case of plague was reported as having occurred at Constantinople, November 4, 1901.

Respectfully, J. M. EAGER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

The mosquito and yellow fever as studied in Rio de Janeiro.

NAPLES, ITALY, *December 3, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following:

The mosquito and yellow fever.

In an article published October 12, 1901, in Le Bulletin Medical, Paris, Dr. H. de Gouvêa, as a result of thirty years' experience in the practice of medicine in Brazil, gives an account of a careful observation of the relation of mosquitoes to yellow fever, and concludes that the conditions under which the disease has in the past been propagated in Brazil have at all times been such as to fulfill the requirements of the mosquito theory.

Particularly in regard to Rio de Janeiro, Dr. de Gouvéa says that a careful inquiry into the history of yellow fever in that city gives a complete confirmation of the theory of Finlay. The city is sheltered from the wind with a hot climate; it is built on a low and humid soil with numerous depressions; it has beneath it a vast natural reservoir of subterranean water, constantly renewed by rains and filtrations from neighboring mountains; and, consequently, during the period of heavy rainfalls, which in general is that of intense heat, many stagnant pools form on the surface of the soil because it is impossible for the deep surface water to empty itself into the bay. These topographical conditions of soil and climate form a veritable paradise of mosquitoes. There is found, in fact, a union of conditions favorable for the procreation of the mosquito.

During the early years of the prevalence of the yellow fever in Rio de Janeiro, it failed to reach the towns situated so far in the interior that the journey occupied more time than the period of incubation of yellow fever. Persons fell sick en route, but convalescents or the effects of the sick did not carry the disease inland. Later, when the quicker transportation by land was established, yellow fever began to appear farther from the coast, and the interior towns lost their exemption from the disease unless they were so situated as to afford no breeding place for the mosquitoes. Petropolis, for example, is a case in point. This city is situated at an altitude of 800 meters, and is known for its salubrity and freedom from paludism. Petropolis is built in a valley. The incline of the ground is such that the valley empties its waters promptly into a deep river. Thus a sort of natural drainage is effected. When the railroad was built from Rio de Janeiro to Petropolis, the latter city soon became the residence in the season of many wealthy persons whose principal place of abode was at Rio de Janeiro. In that epoch, it occurred that during every yellow fever epidemic at Rio de Janeiro, a certain number of persons leaving Rio de Janeiro would fall ill of yellow fever at Petropolis. But, though no sanitary measures were taken against the transmission of the malady, the disease did not spread among the people of Petropolis.

The epidemic history of Sao Paulo is interesting. A part of this city is built along the side of a plain where there are numerous pools of stagnant water; the remainder is high. At one time there was a small epidemic in the lower portion, but the higher sections, where there were no pools, remained exempt. The isolation hospital was in a part of the city where mosquitoes were never seen and, though the personnel of the hospital numbered many persons who were probable reagents, not a single case of transmission was observed.

It is stated in Dr. de Gouvéa's paper that yellow fever has never been imported into the parts of the province of Rio Grande, in which malaria does not exist, though the exempt parts have always been in communication with Rio de Janeiro and Santos, distant, respectively, four and three days by sea.

Respectfully,
J. M. EAGER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.